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Appl. No. 09/271,411
Amdt. dated August 1, 2007
Reply to BPAI decision of June 28, 2007

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims

Claims 45-55 and 57-71 are pending. With entry of this amendment, claims 45, 60 and 71 are amended, and claims 59 and 61 are canceled. No new matter is added.

As noted in the appeal brief, claims 51, 59, 61 and 71 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. The amendments to the claims merely incorporate the dependent claims 59, 61, and 71 into their underlying independent base claim.

In view of claims 59, 61 and 71 being re-written in independent form, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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